

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

Telephone 401-222-2678
TTY 401-222-3700

Fax 401-222-2968
www.preservation.ri.gov

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FROM: Rhode Island Historical Preservation
and Heritage Commission
The Old State House
150 Benefit Street
Providence, RI 02903

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FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION: Contact Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director
 Pamela Kennedy, Deputy Director
 RIHP & HC
 (401) 222-2678

 RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
 AWARDS GRANTS TO CITIES AND TOWNS

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHP&HC) announced today that it is awarding seven grants totaling about \$48,000 to local historical preservation programs. These grants to six Rhode Island cities and towns will support a range of local preservation activities, including two survey and National Register nominations, archaeological investigation, and several public education activities.

In making the announcement, RIHP&HC Executive Director Edward F. Sanderson stated: "The work carried out by municipal historical preservation programs is very important to our statewide preservation efforts. These grant awards are an

acknowledgement of the commitment which these communities have made to protecting their historic resources. The Commission is pleased to support activities which local governments have identified as high priorities."

Bristol will receive a grant award of \$7,000 to perform archaeological research and limited testing to reconstruct the town's first century settlement patterns.

East Greenwich will receive \$2,000 to publish downtown design guidelines.

Newport and Salve Regina University will receive \$14,500 for a survey and National Register of the neighborhood west of Broadway.

Pawtucket will receive \$5,000 for a National Register nomination of sections of downtown Pawtucket.

Providence will receive two awards; \$1,000 for Preserve Rhode Island's workshop on lead hazards in historic buildings; and \$5,000 to prepare R.I. Black Heritage Society's publication about the history of African-Americans in Providence.

A grant of \$4,000 to Warwick will fund continued investigation of the 17th century Greene Farm site.

The Commission has also reserved \$10,000 to fund the 2006 State Historic Preservation Conference. A location for the annual conference and workshops will be announced later this year.

These grants are part of the Commission's Certified Local Government (CLG) program, which provides assistance to cities and towns who protect the historic character of their communities

through local historic district ordinances. Towns whose historic district ordinances and review procedures meet CLG standards are certified by the Commission and become eligible to receive grants and technical assistance.

The grants are funded by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service and awarded and administered by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission. Currently fifteen Rhode Island cities and towns are Certified Local Governments.

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission is the state office for historic preservation and heritage programs. It is Rhode Island's only statewide historic preservation program which identifies and protects historic buildings, districts, and archaeological sites. The Commission conducts statewide surveys of historic sites and buildings; nominates significant properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register; administers programs of financial aid including grants, loans, and tax credits; reviews federal, state, and local projects to protect cultural resources; regulates archaeology on state land and under state territorial waters; and assists the preservation efforts of local governments, preservation societies and property owners. The Commission also is responsible for developing and carrying out programs to document, support and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Rhode Island's people.

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